

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 03069 301237Z
ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 /026 W
-----109935 010736Z /11

R 301013Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4285

UNCLAS RANGOON 3069

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, TBIO, BM, IN
SUBJECT: DHEW/PHS/NIH NUMBER 09-002-W, PROPOSED SURVEY OF INFANT
AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MORTALITY IN RELATION TO FERTILITY PATTERNS
IN BURMA

REF: A) STATE 210444, B) RANGOON A-33

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES SURVEY'S PURPOSE IS WELL-FOUNDED. IT
WOULD SUPPLY INFORMATION IN AN AREA FOR WHICH THERE IS
LITTLE EXISTING DATA IN BURMA, AND THIS INFORMATION WOULD
BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL SHOULD BURMA AT SOOME FUTURE TIME
INSTITUTE A BIRTH CONTROL PROGRAM.

2. HOWEVER, SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT REQUIRES
COORDINATION BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH WHICH HAS ALREADY
CARRIED OUT SOME PRELIMINARY STUDIES OF INFANT MORTALITY AND
THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE
FOR VITAL STATISTICS. AS NOTED BY THE WHO REPRESENTATIVE,
COORDINATION BETWEEN GUB MINISTRIES IS NON-EXISTENT.
THE DH REPRESENTATIVE, DR. KIM, BELIEVES HIS
OFFICE COULD PROVIDE THE REQUIRED COORDINATION. CERTAINLY
THE LOCAL WHO OFFICE HAS EXCELLENT RELATIONS, GOOD CONTACTS
AND CONSIDERABLE LEVERAGE WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH THAT
WOULD TEND TO ASSURE THAT MINISTRY'S COOPERATION. ON THE
OTHER HAND, WHO PRESENTLY LACKS THE NECESSARY INFLUENCE
WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE TO ASSURE THAT
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MINISTRY'S FULL COOPERATION. DR. KIM IS AN ABLE ADMINI-
STRATOR AND PERSONABLE INDIVIDUAL WHO QUITE LIKELY COULD
THROUGH HIS OWN EFFORTS SECURE A SUFFICIENT DEGREE OF
COOPERATION FROM THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE.
HENCE, COORDINATION AND SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAM WOULD DEPEND LARGELY ON THE ABILITY AND PERSONALITY
OF ONE PERSON, AND DR. KIM MAY NOT REMAIN IN RANGOON FOR

THE DURATION OF THE PROGRAM. HIS HEALTH IS QUESTIONABLE
AS HE RECENTLY WAS ABSENT FROM HIS POST FOR SEVERAL MONTHS
WHILE HE UNDERWENT TREATMENT FOR A HEART CONDITION IN LONDON.
THIS, THEREFORE, SEEMS A RATHER FRAGILE FOUNDATION ON WHICH
TO BASE THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROGRAM.

3. DESPITE THIS SERIOUS RESERVATION REGARDING
IMPLEMENTATION, WE BELIEVE THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THE
PROGRAM COULD SUCCEED, AND IT IS SUFFICIENTLY WORTHWHILE
TO MERIT A FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION.
BARTLEY

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Message Attributes

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